Amendments To The Claims

    1-12. (Withdrawn)

    13. (Currently amended) A secure program storage device comprising:

a storage medium bearing program instructions operable ~~to~~ for booting a computer ~~for~~ by exclusive execution of program instructions found only on the ~~read-only~~ storage medium at the computer, the exclusive execution of program instructions excepting system device drivers as needed for operation of the computer;~~and~~

    means for identifying system device drivers in normal use on said computer and for providing correspondingly appropriate system device drivers for use in conjunction with said program instructions, and

    means for verifying system device drivers in use by the computer during execution of said program instructions to assure that the drivers are not corrupted,

    the program instructions on the storage medium being further operable for execution of a voting application program configured to permit a voter to cast votes in an election.

    14. (Cancelled)

    15. (Original) The secure program storage device as set forth in claim 13 wherein said storage medium is a CD ROM.

    16. (Original) The secure program storage device as set forth in claim 13 including program instructions for writing to a floppy disk all system information and device drivers that are required for operation of the computer and which are not found on the read only storage medium.

    17. (Original) The secure program storage device as set forth in claim 16 including program instructions for diagnosing whether a read mechanism for the read only storage device is capable of booting the computer.

    18. (Original) The secure program storage device as set forth in claim 16 including program instructions for making a floppy startup disk when the read mechanism for the read only storage device is not capable of booting the computer.

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19. (Original) The secure program storage device as set forth in claim 18 including program instructions for using the floppy startup disk to transfer program control to the read only storage device for exclusive execution of program instructions found on the read only storage device.

20.   (Original) The secure program storage device as set forth in claim 13 wherein said program instructions are operable to boot said computer as a voter client on a network election system.

21. (Original) The secure program storage device as set forth in claim 13 wherein said program instructions are operable to boot said computer as a voter client on a network election system consisting essentially of a sponsored Internet connection.

22-24 (Withdrawn)

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